CENSUS (IRELAND) EXPENSES.

MEMORANDUM ON THE FINANCIAL RESOLUTION PROPOSED TO BE MOVED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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Memorandum on the Financial Resolution proposed to be moved by the Government.

Clause 1 of the Bill provides that a census for Ireland is to be taken on the 24th April 1921.

Clause 6 provides that the Registrar-General and such other persons as the Lord Lieutenant may appoint are to conduct the census, and that an abstract of the returns is to be presented to Parliament within 12 months of the date of the census.

Under clause 5 (2) the expenses incurred with the approval of the Treasury of taking the census are to be paid out of moneys provided by Parliament.

It is estimated that the expenditure in connection with the census of 1921 will amount to 90,000*l.*, spread over a period of three or four years. The expenditure in connection with the census of 1911 amounted to 18,926*l.*

This high estimated cost, as compared with the cost of the census of 1911, is mainly due to the general rise in the cost of labour, printing, &c., and to the fact that in 1911 members of the Royal Irish Constabulary and Dublin Metropolitan Police were appointed as enumerators, and, in accordance with the regulations of their respective forces, received no remuneration for this work, but merely their travelling and subsistence expenses.

In the census of 1921 it is anticipated that special enumerators will have to be appointed and remunerated for their services as in Great Britain.

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